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PROCEEDINGS AND PAPERS.

GENERAL MEETING, held in the Assembly Rooms, Kilkenny, on
Wednesday, November 3rd, 1858,

THE VERY REV. THE DEAN OF OSSORY, President of the Society,
in the Chair.

The following new Members were elected:—

The Right Hon. and Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Down and Connor, and Dromore; and Lady Anna Maria Loftus, 63, Eaton-place, London: proposed by the Rev. G. H. Reade.

John M'Clintock, Esq., M. P., Drumcar, Dunleer: proposed by the Rev. J. H. Stubbs.

The Right Rev. William Delany, D.D., Roman Catholic Bishop of Cork; the Very Rev. Canon Keleher, P.P., V. F. Kinsale; Joseph Henry Corbett, Esq., M. D., Professor of Anatomy, Queen's University, 13, Patrick's-hill, Cork; William O'Keeffe, Esq., Solicitor, Rose Lodge, Blackrock, Cork; William Delany, Esq., Blackrock, Cork; Nathaniel J. Hobart, Esq., M. D., South Mall, Cork; Thomas Power, Esq., M. D., Resident Physician, District Asylum, Cork; James Patten, Esq., Innoshannon, county of Cork; Henry Hassett, Esq., J. P., Clancoole Brewery, Bandon; William Shaw, Esq., J. P., Woodlands, Bandon, county of Cork; Maurice Fitzgerald, Esq., Distillery, Bandon; Hezekiah O'Callaghan, Esq., Bandon; Michael Joseph Barry, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, 8, Lower Pembroke-street, Dublin; James Mahony, Esq., Consul for Monte Video, Honduras, and Uruguay, 8, Nelson-street, Dublin; Charles D. Astley, Esq., Architect, Board of Public Works, Custom House, Dublin; and John Fennessy, Esq., High-street, Kilkenny: proposed by Barry Delany, Esq., M. D., Resident Physician, District Asylum, Kilkenny.

Arthur Kavanagh, Esq., J. P., Borris House, Borris, county of Carlow: proposed by William Graves, Esq., J. P.

James Shearman Loughnan, Esq., Patrick-street, Kilkenny: proposed by Rev. J. Graves.

The Rev. John Kingston, Bantry; Richard Nicholson, Esq., Bantry; John L. Nicholson, Esq., Castletown, Berehaven; John Warburton Jermyn, Esq., Castlecove House, Kenmare, and Thomas Maybery Jermyn, Esq., Liss Cottage, West Cove, Kenmare: proposed by the Rev. Stephen O'Halloran.

William L. Cole, Esq., Editor of the "Irish American," New York, United States: proposed by Edward Fitzgerald, Esq., Youghal.

William Blain, Esq., Eldon-terrace, Waterford: proposed by J. Elliot, Esq., M. D.

The Hon. Secretary said that the Society was much indebted to Dr. Delany for his zeal in bringing in the names of so many new Members, an observation which was heartily responded to by the Members present.

The following presentations were received, and thanks voted to the donors :—

By the Society of Antiquaries of London: "Archæologia," Vol. XXXVII., part 2; their "Proceedings," Vol. IV., No. 47; and "List" of Members, 1858.

By M. Boucher de Perthes, Président de la Société Impériale d'Emulation d'Abbeville: "Mémoires, de la Société Impériale d'Emulation d'Abbeville," 1852-57.

By the Author: "Antiquités Celtiques et Antediluviennes," tome deuxième, by M. Boucher de Perthes, Président de la Société Impériale d'Emulation d'Abbeville.

By the Royal Dublin Society: their "Journal," Vol. I., 1856-57.

By the Publisher: "The Gentleman's Magazine," for September, October, and November, 1858.

By the Suffolk Institute of Archæology, Statistics, and Natural History: their "Proceedings," Vol. II., No. 7; and "East Anglian Notes and Queries," No. 1.

By Robert Mac Adam, Esq.: "The Ulster Journal of Archæology," No. 23.

By the Archæological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland: their "Journal," No. 58.

By the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland: their "Proceedings," Vol. II., part 2.

By the Cambridge Antiquarian Society: "Report and Communications," No. 8.

By the Geological Society of Dublin: their "Journal," Vol. VIII., part 1.

By the Author: "An Address to the Royal Irish Academy,

on the Delivery of the Cunningham Medals, 1858," by James Henthorn Todd, D. D., F. S. A., &c.

By the Publisher: "The Builder," Nos. 809-21 inclusive.

By Mr. George Stephenson: a gutta percha cast of the seal of Dillon's regiment of the Irish Brigade in the service of France, which had been attached to a deed bearing date between A. D. 1750 and 1760. The device was a shield azure, charged with three fleur-de-lis, surmounted by an imperial crown, and supported by six regimental colours. The legend was REG^T D'INF^{RIE} IRLANDOISE DE DILLON.

The Rev. J. Graves said that they were much indebted to Mr. Stephenson of Grimsby, England, a gentleman who had formed a very large collection of similar objects, for this rare seal; he had mentioned the existence of this seal to Mr. O'Callaghan, the historian of the Irish Brigade, and was informed by that gentleman that he considered it to be a great rarity, if not unique.

By the Rev. Dr. Spratt: a leaden "bulla" of Pope Gregory IX., in fine preservation. The donor accompanied his presentation by the following communication to the Hon. Secretary:—

"Will you be good enough to present to the 'Kilkenny and South-East of Ireland Archæological Society' the enclosed leaden bulla, which was found by a labouring man whilst opening a sewer within the ancient precincts of the Cathedral Church of the Blessed Trinity, Dublin? It is, as you will have perceived, in a most perfect state of preservation. This *bulla* was appended to an edict or brief which had probably been transmitted to that church between the years 1227 and 1238. It is impressed on one side with the venerable bearded heads of SS. Peter and Paul, and on the other with the name of Pope Gregory IX."

By Henry Barry Hyde, Esq.: two guinea notes of the Tuam Bank of French, Taaffe, and Co., dated January 5, 1813, and of the Waterford Bank of Atkins, Skottowe, and Robertson, dated October 10, 1809.

By Mr. Daniel Byrne: a gun-money half-crown of James II., and an English shilling of Elizabeth; the latter was one of many found on the Knockbawn, or the White Hill, in the parish of Desertgallen, Queen's County. According to Mr. Byrne, on this hill there are three Druidic circles, one within the other; and tradition asserts that it was once encircled by a race-course, and was a place of public meeting. Mr. Byrne proceeds:—

"It is my opinion that the coins were lost on the hill at the time Prince Anthony O'More encamped there opposite the camp of the Earl of Ormonde, who encamped on Chatsford Hill. This event took place about the end of the summer of 1598. With Prince Anthony were Edmond Burke and the celebrated Captain Tyrrell. The coins must have been in the possession of O'More's soldiers, who rested on the hill, which received its name

Knockbawn, or the White Hill, from the white appearance made by O'More's camp. It is also worthy of notice, that in removing the rocks on this hill the remains of silk clothing have been very often found, which, on being touched, fall into dust. From such discoveries it is supposed that much treasure lies still hidden on this hill."

Mr. Graves exhibited a number of antiquities purchased for the Society's Museum, at the sale of the late Dr. Cane's effects. The collection comprised an iron stirrup of the time of Cromwell, an interesting chased brass spur of the period of Henry VIII., a bronze dagger, or spear-head; all except the dagger had been found in the River Bregach, in that part of its course which, passing through Kilkenny, had been deepened in 1847. Four portions of horse-trappings of bronze, and four antique buckles, of the same material, were also purchased.

The Secretary exhibited five magnificent photographs issued by the Architectural Photographic Society to its members, for the year 1857-58. They consisted of an east view of Ely Cathedral; a view of the Parthenon at Athens; of the Palace of the Municipality at Vincenza, Italy; of the Tower of Galata on the Bosphorus, and of an elaborate silver crozier of the fifteenth century.

The Very Rev. President exhibited a large number of encaustic tiles of the thirteenth century, found in some recent works in the cemetery of the Cathedral of St. Canice. They had formed a portion of the ancient flooring of the Cathedral, and had been found buried near the north door, in a spot which has been prolific of similar remains, and where the materials of the ancient floor seem to have been thrown when it was demolished in the seventeenth century.

Mr. J. G. Robertson exhibited some coloured glass beads, which form a currency in the interior of Africa. The object of the exhibition was to show the similitude between these beads and those found on the strand at Dunworley Bay, county of Cork, presented at a former meeting by Mr. Jones, of Cork.

Mr. Robertson also exhibited a small phial of wine, which had been found in a bottle shaped like one in the Society's Museum, which latter had been discovered in the ancient cellars of the Castle of Kilkenny. The bottle alluded to by Mr. Robertson, he said, had been dug up in some ground adjoining the Infirmary at Armagh, which was the site of an old inn, stated to have been visited by James II. when in Ireland.

The President, on the part of Mr. Joseph Greene, exhibited a Waterford silver penny of Edward I., and a silver coronation medal of Queen Anne.

The Rev. Constantine Cosgrave, P. P., Keash, Ballymote, recorded the discovery, seven feet deep in a bog at Battlefield, in his parish (where a battle was fought, A. D. 1236, between Phelim

O'Connor, King of Connaught, and the English forces, assisted by some of the surrounding petty princes), of a wooden cup, capable of holding about two quarts, with a foot five inches high, like that of an egg-cup; the form of the cup was elliptical, the largest axis being about ten inches, and the entire about a foot high. The material was apparently beech, and bore traces of a high polish, the rim being ornamented with faint but elegant carvings. The cup had been carefully placed in a chamber constructed by crossing the trunks of trees. Mr. Cosgrave expressed his intention of presenting this interesting remain to the Museum of the Society, but had subsequently written to say that, in drying, it had unfortunately fallen to pieces.

As the question had been raised whether the work entitled "Manipulus Florum" (an early codex of which, preserved at Nice, had been described by Mr. Albert Way, p. 65, *supra*), generally attributed to Thomas of Palmerstown, or de Hybernia, was really written by him, or by Johannes Galensis, or Waleyss; the following communication, dated Sept. 18, 1858, from Mr. Way, must prove interesting as tending pretty nearly to remove all doubts on the subjects:—

"In Quaritch's September Catalogue, under MSS., No. 311, I have noticed:—

" 'Thomæ de Hibernia Tabula originalium sive Manipulus Florum secundum ordinem Alphabeti extracta a libris xxxvi. auctorum.'—*Folio MS. sæc. xiv., vellum, with illuminated capitals.*

" "*Colophon.*—Explicit Manipulus Florum compilatus a magistro thoma de hybernia quondam socio de Serbona et Incepit Johannes Galensis (*Waleyss*) Ord. Fratr. Minor. Doctor in Theologia istam tabulam et Magister Thomas finivit."

"I am sorry I cannot leave home to go to London to look at the MS. It would seem as if John Waleyss only made the Tabula, which in the Nice MS. was an elaborate affair."

Dr. Belcher, of Bandon, sent the following:—

"Outside the east window of Christ's Church, Bandon, is a flat stone, lying north and south; on its upper part is a well-cut figure of a mariner's compass, under which, in irregularly wrought Roman capitals, is the following epitaph:—

" 'Though Boreas's winds and Neptune's seas
Have toss'd me to and fro,
In spight of both by God's decree
I harbour here below:—
Where at an anchor I do ride
With many of our fleet
But once again I hope to sail
Our Saviour Christ to meet.

Thomas French and family burying place—1782.'

“This is evidently a *memoriter* copy of one in Skelton church-yard on two sailors :—

“ ‘Tho’ “Boreas” blasts, and Neptune’s waves
Have tossed us to and fro;
In spite of both by God’s decree
We anchor here below.
Tho’ here we safe in harbour lie
With many of our fleet;
We shall one day set sail again
Our Admiral Christ to meet.’ ”

This epitaph is also to be found, almost *totidem verbis*, at Chalmondistoun, on Captain John Dunch, *ob.* 1696, and in it the spelling “spight” occurs, as at Bandon.

Mr. Henry Martin, Master of the New Ross Endowed School, sent the following interesting communication :—

“ The following particulars have been communicated to me by a still living person, Mr. Patrick Magee, who was himself perfectly acquainted with the facts; and although the details are not numerous, I doubt not that they will prove not quite uninteresting to the readers of your ‘ Journal.’ The present bridge at New Ross, as is well known, was the work of an American architect, Mr. Cox, and was built of American oak in 1796, but there is evidence in aid of tradition that the River Barrow at New Ross was formerly spanned by a noble wooden bridge, the work of an Irish architect, and built of native oak, its width being fifty feet, that is, ten feet wider than the present bridge now measures. When Mr. Edward Hay was a very extensive and prosperous timber merchant in this town, and had no less than five well-stocked timber-yards on the quay at New Ross, it was the practice of some of his workmen to employ a portion of their vacant hours in trawling up and down the river in boats, and armed with harpoons, or long poles headed with spikes. They frequently drew from the bed of the river many fragments of the ancient bridge, consisting of uprights, break-waters, and other portions. The most remarkable piece was taken up nearly opposite the watch-house on the quay, and about 600 yards below the present bridge. This was a cap-piece which was full 50 feet long, and after the honeycomb or corrosion, caused by long immersion in the water, was removed, it was 2 feet square. This cap-piece was of Irish oak, which my informant himself ascertained, as being a person, from his occupation and experience, well qualified to decide, and to distinguish the quality of native timber. It had all the mortices which originally received the tenons of the uprights. This relic of former days, the cap-piece, was handled and examined by the person from whom I have my information, and who was at the time in Mr. Hay’s employment, about the year 1825, and, being regarded as a relic of ancient Irish skill, and an undoubted fragment of the ancient woods of Ireland, it was an object of much curiosity, but was finally sold to John Rossiter, Esq., of Abbeybreney, in the county of Wexford, who had it converted into household furniture, in which form, no doubt, it is still preserved. The site of the

ancient bridge was most probably the same as that of the present bridge, and although we may have no account of the date of its erection, there can be little doubt of its original connexion with the arms of New Ross, as they are represented on the front of the Tholsel,—a bridge, and a hound killing a deer. Tradition says that the arms of New Ross were taken from the circumstance of the death of a deer which was killed upon the ancient bridge by a hound, and which was hunted by the De Freignes of Ballyreddy. In connexion with this subject, it may be interesting to state that about twelve years before the finding of the cap-piece here described, that is, about 1813, there was found near the same part of the River Barrow, also by some of Mr. Hay's workmen, a neatly formed canoe, which had been hollowed from a single piece of timber, which was also Irish oak. The canoe was 17 feet long by 4 in the beam. This class of boats was formerly much used on the Rivers Barrow and Nore, and employed in bringing to New Ross, amongst other goods, iron, which was at those times plentifully manufactured in the county of Kilkenny. The canoe, as may well be supposed, was viewed as a great curiosity, and finally Mr. Hay made a present of it to Sir Thomas Esmonde. The ancient wooden bridge had fallen into decay, most probably at a very remote period, for ferry-boats supplied its place at New Ross from time immemorial, until the new bridge was built. It is a fair conjecture, surely, that that ancient bridge of Irish oak had been erected long before Columbus discovered the New World, and we may well believe, therefore, that Ireland at a remote period could furnish native timber and native artisans to build that fine and expansive bridge whose surviving fragments in this locality alone remain to bear testimony to their ability and skill."

Mr. Graves said there was little doubt that the relics of an ancient bridge, described by Mr. Martin as having been found at New Ross, had formed part of the original timber bridge built by the great Earl Mareschal in the reign of Henry III., to connect Kilkenny with Wexford, both forming portions of the Liberty of Leinster, which that powerful nobleman had received in marriage with the heiress of Strongbow. King John dates some of his Irish writs from "The Town of the New Bridge of William Earl Mareschal,"¹ which shows that it was in existence in his reign. The legend respecting the pulling down of the deer on the bridge by the hounds of a De Freigne was curious, and afforded the only clue he (Mr. Graves) was aware of to explain the town arms of New Ross; however, as the town of Clonmel bore a similar device, he feared it was not conclusive. With regard to the tradition that iron ore had originally been carried in cots down the Nore to Ross, it was amply confirmed by the express statement of Gerard Boate, Physician to the Commonwealth Forces in Ireland, who, in his "Natural History," says that Sir Charles Coote exported large quantities in that man-

¹ "Apud villam nove pontis Will'i Marescalli." Mr. Herbert F. Hore, to whom Mr. Graves was indebted for the fact, is of opinion

that there are proofs to show that Cromwell caused a timber bridge to be thrown across the river at Ross.—Ed.

ner from his smelting furnaces, of which remains still exist all along the base of the Slieve-bloom mountains : and the iron furnaces established by the Wandesfordes at Castlecomer, which continued to blaze whilst a tree stood on the hills of ancient Hi-duach, could have (in the then state of the roads of Ireland) no other outlet.

The Honorary Secretary observed that he much regretted to be obliged to report that persons of Mr. Martin's turn of mind seemed scarce in the ancient town wherein he dwelt. Perhaps no Irish town once held so many monuments of the taste and skill of our ancestors as New Ross. Not to speak of the adjoining town of Rosbercon, which could once boast of most interesting architectural remains, Ross possessed two monastic houses, a noble Early English church, with crypt, and had been, in the thirteenth century, surrounded by a wall with bastions and gates, the erection of which is so quaintly described in the contemporary Norman-French poem of Brother Michael of Kildare, worthily translated into English metre by "L. E. L." By degrees, however, one after another of the monastic buildings was razed, the nave of old St. Mary's was cleared away to make room for the present modern church and tower ; and the Corporation, having removed the Bewly or Three Bullet Gate, had made itself notorious by the notice still remaining, cut on a stone fixed in the wall of a modern corn-store. This composition—a genuine example of an Irish bull—was as follows :—

THIS IS THE WEST SIDE OF
BEWLY GATE TAKEN DOWN
IN THE YEAR 1845 BY CONSENT
OF THE TOWN COMMISSIONERS.

It was reserved, however, for the present Town Commissioners to complete the category of Vandalism by demolishing, a short time since, the beautiful Early English gateway known as the "Market Gate," conjectured by a modern writer¹ to have been erected in honour of the ladies of Ross, when all classes of citizens laboured to fortify their town. Whilst persons of taste remained on the Commission, several efforts to destroy the fine remain had been successfully resisted, but a change in the constitution of that body having

¹ On the authority of the good friar of Kildare, who, as rendered by "L. E. L.," states that the ladies of Ross having worked at the erection of the walls with their own fair hands, the gallant burghers declared that, to serve as a memorial of their appreciation of the patriotic labours of their townswomen,—

"A gate they'd make,
Called the Ladies', for their sake,

And their prison there should be ;
Whoso entered, straightway he
Should forego his liberty.
Lucky doom I ween is his,
Who a lady's prisoner is."

The present race of Ross burghers seem determined to get rid of every indication of the olden prosperity of their once important, but now decayed town.

been recently effected, the poor old gate was doomed, and has actually succumbed to the "crowbar brigade" of the Town Commissioners. Shame on the men of Ross, who could stand by and see their town deprived of one of its chief objects of interest in the eyes of all persons of cultivated taste!

The following interesting communication to the Hon. Secretary was received from Aquilla Smith, Esq., M. D., dated September 6, 1858 :—

"I lately found among my loose papers the copies of two depositions made before some magistrate in 1673. If you consider them worth printing, they are at your service.

"The mention of 'Arabian gold' is remarkable, as it implies a belief at that time existing, that the gold found so abundantly in Ireland was introduced from Arabia. The 'quarter cobb' or quarter dollar, in 1660, weighed 4 dwts. 6 grs. (Simon, edit. 1810, p. 50); at the same period 4 dwts. 8 grs. of gold were worth 16s. The piece cut from the 'smalest ring' must have weighed about 8 dwts., as the goldsmith gave 30s. for it. Ballickmorish is probably the same as Ballymorish, which is mentioned in an Inquisition held at Maryborough, in the Queen's County, on the 19th of September, 1617 (14 Jac. I.) It was part of the property granted by Queen Elizabeth to Owen M'Hugh O'Dempsie, in the thirteenth year of her reign (Inquisit. Com. Reginae, published by the Record Commission). Kildegyn may be 'Villa de Kildegny,' or 'Kildignie,' mentioned in an Inquisition held at Gallen, in the Queen's County, the 19th of July, 1621.

(MS. Vol. F. 1. 20. pp. 71, 72, *Trin. Coll. Lib., Dublin.*)

"The examination of Kate Moylony, alias Oulaghan, taken before me uppon the holy Evangelist, the . . . day of January, 1673.

"This examinant being duely sworne saith, that at or about the last of May, 1670, she and her son Edmond Moylony came to the house of Farrell M'Morris, at Ballickmorish, in the evening, and there staid them both all night; after supper the said Edmond spake unto the said Farrell M'Morris, and told him that he was sent thither by his father, Laughlin Moylony, to see some brasse that the said Farrell found. After a good while the said Farrell answered and said it was no brasse, but whispered his owne son in the eare, uppon which the son went into a chamber, and unlocked a chest, and brought with him a yard of pure gold, compleatly wrought, about 28 inches long, and as thick as her middle finger, and one greate ring that might compasse and [any?] man's head with his hatt on, and shaped after this manner [*here is a rude sketch of a torque with the hook and spiral terminations for fastening*] and each of the 3 loopes near as long as her finger, and much of the same thicknesse, and another ring of lesse compasse, plaine and round, and another piece in the figure of a pair of tongues, two spans long, and of equall thicknes with the yard, and after the said Kate and Edmond viewed the said parcell of gold, Farrell spake to the said Edmond, and said, I know that this is good mettall, and if you prove faithfull to me, I will give that which you will be the better for, and your posterity after yow, the said Edmond promised to

be faithfull, then Farrell said, take a litle of itt, and try if it be what I thinke it to be, upon that Edmond drew out his tooles, and Farrell would not suffer him to cutt above a quarter of an inch of the smalest ring, which the said Edmond tooke, and parted next morning, and went to Birr, and sold it to one John Cavan, goldsmyth, for 30s., and the said John told the said Edmond and Kate that it was as good Arabian gold as ever was seene, and the said Kate and Edmond told the said John where they found that there was an infinite deale of gold, and what they could gett they would bring from tyme to tyme. After parting Birr the said Kate and Edmond came to their place of aboad, by name Kildeggin, where one Tady Flin lived, the said Kate and Edmond drinking at the said Flin's fathers house, and after drinking what mony they had, they spoake unto the said Tady Flynne to gett some mony, the said Tady taking some excuse for mony, they told him he needed not be affraid to lend them some mony, and that they had it in chase which would make them considerable, upon which they told the said Tady, that there was a greate deale of gold with one Farrell M^cMorrish. Within six days the said Kate and Edmond went to the said Farrell M^cMorrish, and stayed a night, after settling the said Edmond and Kate told the said Farrell that what he had was pure gold, upon that Farrell answered, that what was there it was gon, and taken away from him by force, by a strang hand, and that he was booke-sworne never to reveale it, upon that this examinant said, I doe believe it was one Edmond Cartan that gott it from yow, he held his peace, onely said I am book sworn not to name him, but soone after they saide it was Edmond Cartan tooke all. This examinant further sayth, when Farrell's son went to the chest to take out the severall parcellis which he shewed, that he made such a noyse, as if there were great chaines of gold in the chest.'

“*Jan. 11, 1673.*”

“ ‘ Catherine, the wife of Lauglin Mullawney, sayeth that about the end of May, 1671, she and her son Edmond deceased, were at the house of one Farrell M^cMorris, and that she saw there a round piece or barr of gold of 27 or 28 inches long, which she knowes by measuring the same with her arme, that she saw another piece of gould that was doubled, and being so doubled was 2 spans long. That she saw likewise one large hoop of gould that had (at the joyning of its ends) two loopes or turneings one from another, and that one of the said loopes or turneings had 3 doubles, and that the said hoop would compasse any man's hatt. That she saw one small hoop or ring that would compasse any man's neck, with a passage betwixt both the ends thereof, and that her son cutt off the weight of a quarter cobb of this latter ring, and sould the same for thirty shilling. That it was the said Farrell Mac Morris, and his son (that was said to have found the said gould) were the persons that shewed the said gould unto her and her son, and that both she and her son did not onely see, but handle the said gould, that the said Farrell Mac Morris told her son, that if he would make good use of that little bitt he cutt off, and bring him a good and faithfull account thereof, that he would give him what would make him for ever, that at the bringing the said gould out of a chest, that was in another roome there was a great shineing over all the roome, and that she heard a noyse and jungling att the removing of the said gould as if

plough chaines were stirred, And that she could not judge any other than that there was abundance of gould more, than what she and her son saw. That about a fortnight afterwards she and her son came to the said Farrell's house with intent to buy the said gould and all of that kind that they could find for some smale matter, and that when they demanded the said gould to that end, the said Farrell made answer that he would not wish for all that ever he was worth that he had shewed them any of it, and that he believed it was her son that imployed some of the neighbourhood to rob him thereof. And that since he and his mother was there some of his able neighbours had taken it from him by force on a morning before he was out of his bed. And that the greatest cause of his grief for his losse, was, that it was a protestant, and not one of his owne profession that tooke it from him, and that he was forc't to swear never to tell who robbed him thereof.' ”

Mr. Daniel Mac Carthy communicated an important document, being the Charter granted by Dermot Mac Carthy, King of Munster, to the Church of St. John at Cork, accompanied by some necessary elucidations and a translation, as follows :—

“ Surviving the lapse of seven centuries there is, to this day, preserved in the British Museum (Addit. MSS., No. 4793, fol. 65), a copy of a Charter of Dermot Mac Carthy. It has no date, is without the name of the transcriber, and appears to have been copied from an equally undated anonymous previous copy. Although it is likely that the Charter itself was without mention of the year of its execution, it is difficult to believe that the existing transcript is literally faithful; for, besides the two lacunæ towards the end, and the random rearrangement of the fragments of the broken sentence, there is an earlier paragraph, as the reader may readily perceive, which is incomplete. It may, indeed, have been, though it is scarcely probable, that the original composer of the document had strayed into so complicated a parenthesis that the earlier portion of his sentence escaped his memory by the time he had extricated himself from it. Were there no means of conjecturing the date of the transcript, or the name of the transcriber, it would be of little consequence; the absence of date in the Charter is fortunately of none, for its contents enable us to determine the period of its execution with sufficient exactitude. If we consider the illustrious names on the body of this document, or the assembly of saintly men who attached their signatures to it, the Irish reader will allow that it would be difficult to present to his veneration a nobler national monument of the piety of our forefathers; and it is with feelings of peculiar gratification that, after the lapse of so long a period, a descendant of the granter of this Charter is permitted to bring it under the notice of his countrymen, illuminated with such feeble marginal colouring as his limited skill enables him to throw upon it.

“ Dermot of Kilbaghuine, ‘so called a loco occisionis,’ was the son of Cormac, son of Muiredhach, son of Carthach, from whom the Mac Carthys assumed their surname. Of the life of Cormac, reputed Bishop and King of Munster, it were superfluous in the writer of these pages to speak, for the searching investigation of the learned Dr. Petrie has already decided for us all that we have authority for believing with regard to him. He

was put to death at the instigation of his son-in-law, Tirlough O'Brien, in 1138; and then began the long, eventful, and disastrous reign of Dermot, whose most unenviable lot it was to be the first of the Irish princes who swore fealty to Henry II., and whose latter days were darkened by the execution of a rebellious son. With reference to the former of these events, historians concede to us in courtesy the consolation that submission to the Normans was not made without a struggle, that it was not to the sword of Raimond Le Gros, but to the kingly policy, the *urbanitatis blandimenta*, of Henry that the Irish princes yielded. The scenes acted at Waterford have found many historians, but none have told with more detail the acts by which the English monarch flattered the impulsive and proud character of the Irish; none have related in more generous and graceful language the submission of Dermot, than Stanihurst. Henry landed at Waterford on St. Luke's day, 1172, and his first act was to imprison Robert Fitz Stephens for outrages laid to his charge by the Irish.

"Postridie quam hæc gesta erant," writes Stanihurst, 'Dermitius Urbis Corcagiæ princeps Waterfordiam intrabat, et se ad Henrici pedes abjiciens, eos imperii sui fasces non dimicanti deferebat, quos multis antea dimicantibus dinegarant.'

"Serenely indifferent to the scruples which guided the pen of Stanihurst, an unknown chronicler in the Book of Howth, relates the event in far homelier phrase:—

"The king tarried a few days at Waterford, &c. After came the kinge of Corke, Dermot M^cCarty, and yeldet himself to the kinge, and did him homag, and sware gret othes, and delywred him ostage for to be his subject, and gawe him sartayne evary yere of his land. Frō this the kinge went to Leshmore w^t his hoste, and ther was two dayes, and from thens went to Cassell, Thether cam Donell O'Bren, kinge of Limricke to him apōn the water of Surry [Siuire], and soe to hawe peace, yelded him to the kinge in all māner as M^cCarte had done. The kinge sett kepers bothe at Corke and at Limricke, and to him came the beste of both contrys after M^cCarti and O'Bren & yelded them to the kinge, and became his men by othes and hostages; so ther was none that was of ainy name in all Mounester that by his good will but yeldit them to the kinge. When this was done the kinge w^t much worshepe and w^t riche gefts lett eivv man goe to his owne land."

"The account of the rebellious conduct of Dermot's eldest son, Cormac Liathanach, the '*illustris filius*' of the Charter, is furnished us also by Stanihurst, and by the same old Lambeth chronicle. The meagre narrative of the latter would leave on the mind of the reader the painful impression that the father had acted with unnatural severity to an erring son. Stanihurst, as if the defence of the fame of King Dermot were his pleasing office, would persuade us that the act of the King was necessary and justifiable:—

"Per hos dies," he writes, 'execrandus quidam furor Cormachum Dismondia Principis natum invasit, nam non modo contra patrem arma tulit, sed etiam de ejus exactione totus cogitavit,' &c., &c.

"Cormachus in perfidia instinctus furore perseverans, credulem patrem cepit, atque in carcerem conjecit," &c.

¹ The Book of Howth, page 17, Carew MSS., Lambeth.

"Caring little for the reputation of Dermot or his son, the Howth chronicler tells us how the King applied for aid to Raimond le Gros, and what an excellent business the Norman knight and his men made of their march against the rebel:—

"The Prince of Dessemond, Dermot M^cCarty, sent by messengers to Raymond & besoght him that he agayne his eldest sone that heyght Cormocke O'Lethan, that he migh make him a trew man to the kinge & he shulde helpe him. Raymond as a man that was not slowe to goe himself amongst his men & spacke thereof to his felowes & they all granted to doe as he wold & turned the bandes towarde the contry of Corke. By way as they went they made mañy preyes whereof the mē was full well payed & much thereof was oft sent to Limricke so longe that throgh helpe of Raymond, Dermot recowred all his kingdom upon his sone, of the wich kingdome he was ney pout owt. The sone was taken and delywerd to y^e father, and he put him in presone, and not longe after he toke him owt of p̃sone and smot off his heade."

"The mere fact of the rebellion of Cormac Liathanach has its recital in every history of the time; but neither do the authors above quoted, nor the 'Annals of the Four Masters,' assign or suggest the motive of the son for the imprisonment of the father; it may then be permitted to the writer of these pages to hazard the conjecture, that the *execrandus furor* of Cormac was rather against the invaders than against his father. He rebelled, and the men of Cork and Desmond rebelled also, *because* of the shameful scene at Waterford! As far as we know, Cormac had lived in amity with his father until the coming of the Normans; it is to be presumed that with his father he had fought against them; he is not mentioned as having accompanied King Dermot to wait upon Henry; and he witnessed the speedy sequel to his father's abasement in the occupation of his capital, and the parcelling out of his lands amongst the nobles whom Henry left behind him. It was the opinion of the men of Munster in those days that the man who 'swore gret othes to the invader, and delyvred him hostag for to be his subject,' had reigned long enough. We can scarcely be surprised that Cormac was of this mind also, for indeed Dermot and Raimond Le Gros appear to have been the only two men who thought otherwise. Before passing to the subject of the Charter, we may mention that Dermot, in his old age, married the daughter of a Norman knight, Petronilla de Bloet. Respecting this marriage, nothing beyond the fact, proved by the following extract from the Tower Rolls, has reached us:—

(*Rot. Litt. Claus. in turri Londinensi. An. 1 Hen. III., 1217.*)

"Mandatū est G de Marisċ Justiċ Hiḃñ q^d sñ dilōne ĥre faciat Petronilla Bloet maritagīū suū quod Thom' Bloet fraḡ ejus eidē Pet'nille dedit cū Deremot Magarthy Rege de Cork viro suo. T. cōm ut sup^a."²

¹ Book of Howth, page 31.

² Lord Campbell, in his "Lives of the Chancellors of England," informs us that Lord Chancellor Giffard was succeeded by Robert Bloet, a Norman, who, with several brothers,

came over with the Conqueror. He was Bishop of Lincoln, and died in 1090. This family, he adds, still subsists in Monmouthshire, the name being now, with little change, spelled Bluet.

"No mention is made of any issue from this marriage: the offspring of Cormac Liathanach was cut off from succession to the perishing kingdom of Cork; for Dermot was succeeded by his second son, Donell Mor ne Currah, one of the most valiant and victorious of his race. The posterity of Cormac, however, continued, and continues to the present day. It was blessed, beyond other families of the name, with a multitudinous issue, and became a robust, far-spreading, and florid branch of the sept. Its pedigree, under the distinction of Mac Carthy Mucklagh, or 'Clan Teige Roe na Scairte,' was fortunately kept with the detail and care it so well merited till early in the seventeenth century, and is extant at Lambeth.

"King Dermot lived until the year 1185. His death is thus mentioned in a manuscript in the British Museum (Clarend., 4783, page 97):—

"'This year (1185) Dermot Mac Carthy, prince of Desmond, was slaine neere unto Corke, in a parley by the citizens and some of Theobald Walter's party.'

"The Charter of King Dermot could not have been given earlier than 1172, for in that year only did Gregory, one of the witnesses, become Bishop of Cork. In that year it might have been given, for all the remaining witnesses were then living, and filled the offices attached to their names. Later than 1177, the year in which Cormac was put to death, and Dermot replaced in his kingdom, it is not probable that a public document prepared for the king's signature would speak of the unhappy rebel as the *illustris filius*. Allowing for the troubles ensuing upon the invasion of the Normans, and the subsequent quarrel between father and son, we may safely place the date of this Charter midway between the two periods. The question of the date, however, is not so summarily disposed of by the learned anonymous writer, who has left us his notes appended to his transcript, and who laboured to ascertain, not the period only of its grant, but the site and precise nature of the building erected by Cormac, and enriched by his son and grandson. Unfortunately, he fell into confusion relative to the names and dates before him, and arrived at the strange conclusion that there must have been doubles of the king and his son. 'Unde colligo,' he concludes, 'Dermitium filium Cormaci, hujus Chartæ donatorem, posterioriorem esse Dermitio illo cujus supra fit mentio in prima Nota A' (i. e. Dermot of Kilbaghuine).

"Relative to the site of the building he writes as follows:—'Aliqui volunt hanc Ecclesiam sitam esse extra australem portam Civitatis Corcagensis, licet ex ruina non appareat; dicunt tamen esse monasterium, cum in fine hujus diplomatis vocetur cœnobium, et communis traditio sit fuisse ibi monasterium monialium; nunc autem vix apparent vestigia Ecclesiæ aut Monasterii, in ejus tamen fundo Dominus Thomas Ronain Major Civitatis anno 1630 ædificare curavit hospitale pauperum. Sed crediderim potius per hanc Ecclesiam significari Monasterium Antri Sancti Finbarrii prope Cork, tum quia cœnobium Canonicorum regularium est, tum etiam quia memoratas hoc diplomate terras hodie adhuc possidet, ejusque fundatio hæc tempora incidit juxta Annales Hibernicos.'

"Unaware of the critical perplexity of this anonymous writer, Archdall, following the firmer track of Ware and King, informs us that the Abbey of St. Barr was refounded for regular canons, following the rule of St. Austin, under the Invocation of St. John the Baptist, by Cormac King of

Munster, and adds, quoting from King's collections, the son of the founder tells us that his father built this Abbey for the strangers from Connaught who were the countrymen of St. Barr, &c. About this time, 1174, King Dermot, who was the son of the founder, confirmed the grant made by his father, and made addition thereunto. Donat Abbot of Maig, Gregory of Cunga, and Eugene of Ardmore, were subscribing witnesses to the Charter.

"That the building of Cormac, whether church or monastery, which had been endowed by Dermot O'Connor, enlarged and beautified by the royal munificence of Dermot, was in fact the reconstruction of a previous abbey dedicated to St. Finbar, has every appearance of truth; for a long and cruel war had existed between O'Connor and the Princes of Desmond. Peace had been made between them at last by the interference of Gregory, and surely no memorial of such a peace would be more likely to be suggested by a Christian bishop than a church jointly endowed, built in the territories of the one, for the use of pilgrims from the country of the other.

"It would be an usurpation of very limited space to enter into any biographical details of the witnesses, who throw an additional splendour upon this kingly Charter. The reader will find ample details of most of them, the periods of their consecration and demise, in Ware, Archdall, and more recently in Cotton.

(*B. M., Addit. MSS., 4793, fol. 65.*)

"*Carta Dermitii Regis Momoniensium, de Ecclesia Sⁱ Johannis Corcagiæ.*

"*Dermitius divina favente sententia Rex Momoniensium universis xpi fidelibus, tam presentibus quam futuris, pacem in perpetuum, et salutem.*

"*Labilem experti mortalium memoriam, et labentis mundi pompam instabilem, idcirco chartis commendare dignum duximus, quanto dilectionis studio beate memorie Pater meus Cormacus Rex Momoniensium Ecclesiam S. Johannis Ap^{li} et Evangeliste Corcagie Mauritio Archiepo et Gregorio [et] successorib⁹ eorum, peregrinis de Conacia S. Barrii compatriotis, edificaverit, ac suis defendendam commendaverit.*

"*Nunc autem paterno potitus regno, divino fretus auxilio, eandem Ecclesiam, sicut regiam decet magnificentiam, pro remedio anime mee et parentum meorum, defendendam suscepi, et ad honorem Sanctorum, quorum idem locus esse dignoscitur, sublimare [et] amplificare proposui. Noverit itaq^{ue} universitas fidelium me cuncta quæ idem locus iuste in presenti possidet, vel paterna oblatione, vel aliorum Regum donatione. Gloriosus namq^{ue} Pater meus Rex eidem loco Lysuctdach et Clochan tradidit, Diarmat h Concubuir Killina Carrigh donavit, quæ Ego sequacib⁹ confirmo. Villam verò Illæ me sciat talia eisdem peregrinis dedisse, et hac mea Charta confirmasse. Illustris autem Filius meus Cormacus, petente Catholico Tuamensi Archiepo Madueilgi, Deo et Sancto Johanni, pro remedio anime sue et nostre eternaliter, libere et quiete, absq^{ue} ullo seculari servitio contulit; quam nos villam Regiâ donatione confirmavimus. Ipsum deniq^{ue} cenobium, cum predictis villis in nostram tuitionem suscepimus, ab*

omni reditu seculari secernimus, quiete et libere Deo eternaliter concedimus. Ne vero . . . vel de ceteris, de his aliquis . . . præsumat, nostri sigilli impressione hanc chartam p̄munivimus, et peregrinis Conactensib⁹ sub idoneis testib⁹ servandam.

“ Testes hi sunt ex clero et populo.

“ Christianus Lismorensis Ep̄s et Ap̄lica
sedis Legatus.

“ Donatus Archiepus Casselensis.

“ Gregorius Ep̄s Corkens.

“ Bricius Ep̄s Limericensis.

“ Benedictus Ep̄s Rossensis.

“ Matheus Ep̄s Cluonensis.

“ Donatus Abbas de Magio.

“ Gregorius Abbas de Cunnga.

“ Eugenius Ardmorensis Ep̄s.’

“ TRANSLATION.

“ ‘Dermot, under favour of Divine Providence, King of Munster, to all the faithful of the people, as well present as future, Greeting, and peace for ever.

“ ‘Being well persuaded of the fleeting nature of human memory, and of the unstable pomp of a perishable world, we have, therefore, deemed it worthy to record in writing the affectionate zeal with which our father, Cormac, of blessed memory, King of Munster, built, and confided to the protection of his people, the church of St. John the Apostle and Evangelist at Cork, for the use of Archbishop Maurice and his successors, and for the pilgrims out of Connaught, the compatriots of St. Barry.

“ And now, having succeeded to our paternal kingdom, relying upon the divine assistance, we have undertaken, for the health of our soul, and of the souls of our parents, to defend the said church in such manner as it becometh royal munificence to do, and to re-edify and enlarge the same in honour of the saints under whose protection the said place is known to be; Be it, therefore, known to all the faithful, that we do confirm for all time to come to the said foundation all that the said place now justly possesses, either by the paternal donation, or by the grants of other kings; for my glorious father, the king, bestowed upon the said place Lysnoldarh, and Diarmaid O’Connor endowed it with Cillina Carrigh. And be it known, furthermore, that we have ourselves granted to the said pilgrims the lands of Illa, and by this our Charter do confirm the same: and our illustrious son, Cormac, at the request of Catholicus, Archbishop of Tuam, granted in perpetuity to God and St. John the lands of Maeldulgi, for the health of his soul and ours, to be enjoyed freely and without molestation, and exempt from all secular services, which grant of said lands we also hereby confirm. Now, finally, we do take under our protection the said monastery, with the aforesaid lands, which we exempt from all secular charge, and yield freely and peaceably to God for all time to come. And lest at any time any one should presume to call in question the truth of those former grants, or of this our present grant, we have authenticated this Charter with the impression of our seal, and delivered it, in the

presence of fitting witnesses, to the pilgrims of Connaught, to be preserved.

“The witnesses are the following of the clergy and people:—

“Christian, Bishop of Lismore, and Legate
of the Apostolic See.

“Donat, Archbishop of Cashel.

“Gregory, Bishop of Cork.

“Bricius, Bishop of Limerick.

“Benedict, Bishop of Ross.

“Mathew, Bishop of Cloyn.

“Donat, Abbot of Mayo.

“Gregory, Abbot of Cong.

“Eugene, Bishop of Ardmore.”

The following Papers were submitted to the Meeting.

CATALOGUE OF LEADEN AND PEWTER TOKENS ISSUED IN IRELAND.

BY AQUILLA SMITH, M. D., M. R. I. A.

TOKENS made of lead or pewter are scarce, because they have in general been disregarded by collectors as unworthy of their notice, and being of so little intrinsic value, they are usually thrown away by the person who finds them. They possess, however, some claim to be put on record as evidence of the state of the currency at particular times, when, owing to the scarcity of regal copper money, it became necessary to substitute leaden tokens for the convenience of the poorer classes of society.

All the tokens described in the following Catalogue are made of lead, except the Ballycastle halfpenny, which is made of pewter, and was struck with dies. The greater number of the leaden tokens were cast in moulds, and a few of them were subsequently countermarked with a stamp, bearing the initials of the person by whom they were issued.

There was an abundance of regal copper halfpence coined for Ireland between the years 1736 and 1783, but no copper farthings were issued after the year 1760, until 1806. The regal money must have become scarce soon after 1783, as a necessity arose for the coinage of a great variety of copper halfpence after the year 1789, a copious list of which has been published by Mr. Lindsay.¹

The only tokens which bear dates are the curious one of Kil-

¹ “View of the Coinage of Ireland,” p. 116.